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Gerris lateralis Schummel (Hemiptera: Gerridae) in Hampshire.—The Wildgrounds are part of the Alver Valley, Gosport, South Hampshire (VC11) (SU5800) and include an area of fen, with shallow flooded swampy ground dominated by Carex acutiformis. On the 26.iv.2005, I took several wingless pond-skaters at the base of the emergent sedges. These proved to be G. lateralis, which according to the recent Atlas (Huxley, 2003, Provisional Atlas of the British Aquatic bugs (Hemiptera, Heteroptera). Huntingdon: BRC), are the first modern records from Hampshire. The previous most southerly record was made by Peter Kirby, in 1997 in Berkshire, close to the border with North Hampshire. I am unaware of any old Hampshire records.

These observations were entirely consistent with my previous experience of the insect in Cumbria and North Norfolk, with adults active on slimy mud and duckweed-covered shallow water.—JONTY DENTON, Kingsmead, Wield Road, Medstead, Hampshire, GU34 5NJ.

Dark form of Waved Carpet Hydrelia sylvata (D. & S.) (Lepidoptera: Geometridae) in Perry Woods, Kent. – A dark form of this Nationally Scarce B geometer was recorded in my Rothamsted light-trap in Perry Woods on the night of 5.vii.2005 (det. A. Pickles). This is the first record of this species from this locality following > 20 years of continuous light-trapping. Ferguson in his most recent Kent Moth Report 2003 (2005) records H. sylvata from 16 ten-km squares in the county, indicating that it is now more widespread in the South-East than perceived a few years ago. Some of this range in-filling is due to more thorough recording, but also represents a noticeable spread of the moth. Its predilection for Sweet chestnut Castanea sativa probably accounts for its presence in Perry Woods and it will be interesting to see whether it becomes firmly established here. This was certainly the case for the Least Carpet Idaea rusticata (D. & S.) which first appeared in Perry Woods in 1994 and is now one of the most regularly appearing species of the genus. The records for 2005 show that it appeared on 16 nights during July-August with a total of 31 individuals. –JOHN BADMIN, Coppice Place, Selling, Kent ME13 9RP